IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

--26. A substrate web having a surface coated with an active agent and a binder which is fused to the surface and to the active agent, the substrate web being obtained by a method comprising the steps of:

preparing a mixture of at least one particulate active agent and a particulate binder material having an average particle size not exceeding approximately 80 microns;

applying the mixture to said substrate web to produce a coated surface of powder covering the substrate web;

heating the powder to at least the Vicat softening temperature of said binder material but below the melting temperature of the substrate web and said active agent to form softened binder material; and

applying pressure to said substrate web to cause the softened binder material to fuse with said particulate active agent particles and to said substrate web to form the substrate web having a surface coated with an active agent and a binder which is fused to the surface and to the active agent.

27. The surface coated substrate web of claim 26, wherein the particulate active agent is selected from the group consisting of iodinated resin, carbon, sodium bicarbonate, manganese oxide, and super absorbents.

28. The surface coated substrate web of claim 27, wherein the particulate active agent has a particle size in the range of 5 to 5000 microns.

29. The surface coated substrate web of claim 26, wherein the particulate binder material is a polyolefin material.

30. The surface coated substrate web of claim 26, wherein the particulate binder material is selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

B1 Cont'd

31. The surface coated substrate web of claim 27, wherein the particulate binder material is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer and wherein the particulate active agent has a particle size in the range of 5 to 5000 microns.

32. The surface coated substrate web of claim 26, wherein the substrate web is selected from the group consisting of spun bonded polyester, spun bonded polypropylene, cellulosic tissue stock, and cellulosic towel stock.

33. The surface coated substrate web of claim 26, wherein the particulate active agent in the mixture comprises approximately 10 to 30 weight percent of the mixture and

wherein the particulate active agent in the mixture comprises approximately 70 to 90 weight percent of the mixture.

34. A composite web formed from two substrate webs having an active agent and a binder between their adjacent surfaces, the binder being fused to the adjacent surfaces of the substrate webs and to the active agent, the composite web being obtained by a method comprising the steps of:

preparing a mixture of at least one particulate active agent and a particulate binder material having an average particle size not exceeding approximately 80 microns;

providing a first substrate web having a surface;

applying the mixture to the surface of said substrate web to produce a coated surface of powder covering the substrate web;

providing a second substrate web having a surface;

laying the second substrate web over the coated surface of the first substrate web;

heating the powder to at least the ~~Vicat softening~~ temperature of said binder material but below the melting temperature of the substrate webs and said active agent to form softened binder material; and

applying pressure to said substrate webs to cause the softened binder material to fuse with said particulate active agent particles and to said first and second substrate webs to form the composite web.

35. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the particulate active agent is selected from the group consisting of iodinated resin, carbon, sodium bicarbonate, manganese oxide, and super absorbents.

36. The composite web of claim 35, wherein the particulate active agent has a particle size in the range of 5 to 5000 microns.

37. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the particulate binder material is a polyolefin material.

38. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the particulate binder material is selected from the group consisting of high density polyethylene, linear low density polyethylene, low density polyethylene and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer.

39. The composite web of claim 35, wherein the particulate binder material is selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer and wherein the particulate active agent has a particle size in the range of 5 to 5000 microns.

40. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the first substrate web is selected from the group consisting of spun bonded polyester, spun bonded polypropylene, cellulosic tissue stock, and cellulosic towel stock.

41. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the second substrate web is selected from the group consisting of spun bonded polyester, spun bonded polypropylene, cellulosic tissue stock, and cellulosic towel stock.

42. The composite web of claim 40, wherein the second substrate web is selected from the group consisting of spun bonded polyester, spun bonded polypropylene, cellulosic tissue stock, and cellulosic towel stock.

43. The composite web of claim 34, wherein the particulate active agent in the mixture comprises approximately 10 to 30 weight percent of the mixture and wherein the particulate active agent in the mixture comprises approximately 70 to 90 weight percent of the mixture.

REMARKS

The Office Action having a mailing date of February 23, 1998 has been received and its contents carefully noted. According to the Office Action summary, claims 1 through 25 were pending in the application, and claims 1 through 15 were withdrawn from consideration by the applicant. Claims 16 through 25 have been examined and rejected. Claims 26 through 43 have been added in this paper. After the addition of claims, claims 16 through 43 are now pending in this application, wherein claims 26 and 34 are new independent claims. In view of the remarks following below, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.